

EXHIBIT A

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Application No.: 10/262,834

Attorney Docket No.: Q71917

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method for transmission of data via a communication network the method comprising:

receiving, at a network node connected with two or more terminals, a data stream from the communication network, wherein the data stream comprises useful data and protocol data;

removing, at the network node, ~~a majority of the protocol data of a portion of protocol layers~~ from the received data stream; and

switching the remaining data stream to be transmitted one of the terminals,
wherein the communication network is a bus system.

2. (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the removing the ~~majority of the protocol data comprises processing and removing protocol data of~~ communication protocols of layers 1 to 4 for the terminals connected to the network node.

3. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the network node communicates with the communication network via a multiple access protocol and the network node communicates with the terminals via a point-to-point protocol.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Application No.: 10/262,834

Attorney Docket No.: Q71917

4. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein a scope of the protocol data of the remaining stream is reduced by more than half in comparison with a scope of the protocol data of the received data stream.

5. (currently amended): A network node comprising:
a first interface for connecting the network node with two or more terminals;
a second interface for connecting the network node with a communication network; and
~~a control unit which is configured to remove removes a majority of protocol data from a portion of protocol layers~~ from a data stream received from the communication network via the second interface, the data stream comprising useful data and ~~the~~ protocol data, and ~~to switch the switches~~ a remaining data stream to be transmitted to ~~a terminal one~~ of the terminals via the first interface,
wherein the communication network is a bus system.

6. (currently amended): The network node according to claim 5, wherein the control device ~~is configured to process and remove removes~~ the protocol data of communication protocols of layers 1 to 4 for the terminals connected with the network node and ~~to switch switches~~ the remaining data stream reduced by the protocol data of the communication protocols of the layers 1 to 4 to the terminal concerned be transmitted the one of the terminals.

7. (previously presented): The network node according to claim 5, wherein the control device is also configured to transmit the remaining data stream to the terminal via a point-to-point protocol.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Application No.: 10/262,834

Attorney Docket No.: Q71917

8. (new): The method according to claim 2, wherein the protocol data is structured according to an Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) model comprising the layers 1 to 4.

9. (new): The method according to claim 6, wherein the protocol data is structured according to an Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) model comprising the layers 1 to 4.